

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action of November 20, 2006 has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-3 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Wolf.

Claims 1-3, 6 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the patent to Burreson, et al..

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Wolf in view of Burreson, et al.

Finally, it is noted that claims 4, 5 and 7-11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has canceled claims 2-4 and 6, and amended claims 1, 5 and 7. Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 4. Claim 7 has been amended to be in independent form.

In view of these changes, and the Examiner's indication that claims 4 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, it is respectfully submitted that these claims, as well as the claims that depend therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the above changes to the claims, applicant submits that the various rejections of claims 1-3, 6, 12 and 13 over the prior art are overcome and should be withdrawn.

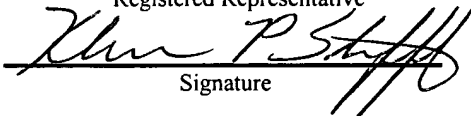
Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the event any actual fee is greater than any payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-2143.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on March 20, 2007:

Klaus P. Stoffel

Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative

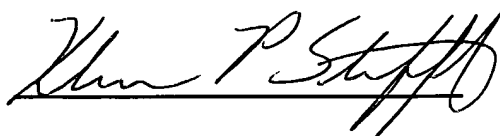


Signature

March 20, 2007

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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